



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 142

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1996

No. 110

## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, and Lord of our lives, we come into Your presence and fall on the knees of our hearts with praise and adoration. It is with awe and wonder that we behold Your signature in the natural world and the sheer majesty of Your creation of human life. You have given us minds to think Your thoughts, emotions to express Your love, wills to discern and do Your will, and bodies intricately made to reflect Your glory. We thank You for all our faculties, but especially for the gift of hearing. Help us never to take for granted the amazing process by which sounds are registered on our eardrums, and carried through the audio nerve to our cerebral cortex to be translated into thoughts of recognition, comprehension, and response. Through the wondrous gift we can hear the song of a lark, majestic music of a sonata, loved one's words of love and hope, and Your own Word in the Scriptures as they are read or proclaimed from across the reaches of time.

We ask You to give us a hearing heart like Solomon prayed for so fervently. May we spend quality time with You so that You may speak to the ears of our minds and hearts. We want to make no decision until we have asked for and received Your guidance. Speak Lord, Your servants are listening. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Good morning Mr. President.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Senate this morning will immediately resume consideration of the Agriculture appropriations bill. Under the provisions of the agreement reached last night, any votes ordered on the pending amendments to that bill will occur at 11 a.m. this morning. I understand there will be some votes at 11 o'clock. There are a limited number of amendments in order to the Agriculture appropriations bill.

I encourage Members who still intend to offer those amendments to be prepared to do so as early as possible today to enable the Senate to complete action on this bill this afternoon. The managers of the bill are here. Senator COCHRAN from Mississippi, of course, and Senator BUMPERS of Arkansas are ready to go to work.

It is my intention to begin consideration of the foreign operations appropriations bill today as soon as the Agriculture appropriations bill has been completed. All Senators should expect votes throughout the day and evening as we continue to try to make progress on the appropriations bills.

I also want to serve notice that it is my intention in the next day, either today or tomorrow, to move to go to conference on the health insurance reform package and on the small business tax relief package which is coupled with the minimum wage bill. In order to get those two bills into and out of conference before we leave next weekend for the August recess, we are going to have to get them into the conference. So we are really down to the point where we have to take action to move these two bills to conference, and I will be making an attempt to do that within the next 2 days.

I yield the floor.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the pending business.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3603) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Bryan amendment No. 4977, to establish funding limitations for the market access program.

Kerrey amendment No. 4978, to increase funding for the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration and the Food Safety and Inspection Service.

Leahy amendment No. 4987, to implement the recommendations of the Northern Forest Lands Council.

Santorum amendment No. 4995, to prohibit the use of funds to provide a total amount of nonrecourse loans to producers for peanuts in excess of \$125,000.

Santorum amendment No. 4967, to prohibit the use of funds to carry out a peanut program that is operated by a marketing association if the Secretary of Agriculture determines that a member of the board of directors of the association has a conflict of interest with respect to the program.

Mr. COCHRAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Mississippi is recognized.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, we made good progress yesterday afternoon and last evening in the debate of several amendments. We resolved some of the issues that were presented to us in the form of amendments. We have votes ordered on amendments which will begin at 11 a.m. We have pending other amendments that have been debated on which the yeas and nays have not been ordered but which may require rollcall votes.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

S8583